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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/733,124	12/11/2003	Marc Bodet	056982/00037	7890

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EXAMINER

LE, THANH TAM T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2839

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/27/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/733,124	Applicant(s) BODET ET AL.	
	Examiner Thanh-Tam T. Le	Art Unit 2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4-11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3, 12-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3, 12-13 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muzslay (4,959,027) in view of Ogawa (5,605,475).

Regarding claims 1 and 17, Muzslay, figures 1 and 2 show a pressure-tight contact device for enabling an electrical connection to an electrical device housed in a pressure-tight housing (20), the contact device comprising an insulator (32) extending through the housing, at least one contact pin (24) extending through the insulator, a connector shell (14) of insulating material positioned on the insulator and affixed to the insulator, the connector shell including a terminal socket (40) for receiving a mating connector, the terminal socket including at least one contact tab (52) in electrical contact with the at least one contact pin, wherein the connector shell is one of a set of interchangeable connector shells each having a different terminal socket configuration suitable for engaging the mating connector having a corresponding mating configuration (the Examiner noted that just only one shell is claimed).

Muzslay discloses the claimed invention as described above except for a seal for sealing the insulator relative to the housing.

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Ogawa, figure 18 shows an electrical connector having an O-ring (4) is provided between a body (3) and a tube (2). It is obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Muzslay to have the O-ring, as taught by Ogawa, in order to secure and protect the body and the tube.

Regarding claim 3, Muzslay discloses the electrical device housed in the housing is a motor for driving a compressor.

Regarding claim 12, Muzslay discloses the at least one contact pin is electrically connected to the electrical device and to a source of electrical current.

Regarding claim 13, Muzslay discloses the at least one contact pin is electrically connected to at least one additional additional electrical device disposed in the housing.

Regarding claims 15 and 16, Muzslay, figure 2 shows the connector shell including a bore/a channel (74) defined for leak testing, the channel being disposed above the at least one contact tab.

3. Claims 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muzslay and Ogawa as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Nakamura (6,558,178).

Muzslay and Ogawa disclose the claimed invention as described above except for a plurality of projections from at least one contact pin.

Nakamura, figure 1 shows a connecting member (21) having a plurality of lances (25, column 3, lines 38-41). It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Muzslay to have the contact having lances, as taught by Nakamura, in order to secure the contact into the housing.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 4-11 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims are allowable over the prior art of record for at least the reason that the prior art fails to teach or suggest a third O-ring for sealing the connector shell relative to the insulator, and at least one fastener for affixing the connector shell to at least one of the insulator and the housing, as set forth in the claimed combination.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 16-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-2094. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

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9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Thanh-Tam T. Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

TL.
02/19/07.